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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/652,109

08/29/2003

David L. Kaminsky

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12/14/2006

EXAMINER

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ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2178

DATE MAILED: 12/14/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/652,109

Applicant(s)

KAMINSKY ET AL.

Examiner

Samir Termanini

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 August 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 August 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 29 August 2003.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to the following communications: Application filed on 8/29/2003; and IDS filed on 8/29/2003.

2. Claims 1-13 are pending. Claims 1, 5, and 10 are in independent form.

CLAIM REJECTIONS - 35 U.S.C. §101

3. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

4. Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter, and further raises questions as to whether the claims are directed to an abstract idea. More specifically, the claims lack the necessary physical articles or objects to constitute a machine or a manufacture within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. 101. They are clearly not a series of steps or acts, to be a process, nor are they a combination of chemical compounds to be a composition of matter. Claims 1-5 are directed to computer programs claimed as computer listings *per se*, i.e., the descriptions or expressions of software programs because the "System" limitation recited, in claims 1-5, does not necessarily mean a hardware system and could be a software-only-system, exclusive of those that are "computer-readable." Accordingly, they do not define any structural and functional interrelationship between the software program and other claimed elements of a computer which permit the software program's functionality to be realized. Therefore, claims 1-5, being directed toward computer listings *per se*, fail to fall within a statutory category.

5. For the purposes of examination, claims 1-5 are being examined as if they were directed toward subject matter claimed as embodied on a computer-readable medium.

CLAIM REJECTIONS - 35 U.S.C. §102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

7. Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by *Underwood* (US Pat. No. 6,601,233 B1).

As to independent claim 1, *Underwood* teaches a system for autonomically configuring a user interface ("...developing computer software using...a collection of largely autonomous components, called objects..." col. 11, lines 44-55) comprising: at least one widget programmed to be disposed in the user interface ("User Interface {UI} components. Custom 'widgets' {e.g., real-time stock tickers, animated icons, etc}..." col. 16, lines 39-42), said at least one widget comprising a dynamically configurable presentation field (e.g. "The AFViewDynamicBOMapping component defines the mapping between a dynamically created user interface field and the business component instances containing the value to display." col. 38, lines 62-65; *see also* "AFViewDynamicBOMapping" col. 31, lines 30-40); and, a policy comprising a plurality of business rules ("Application Logic is the expression of

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business rules and procedures [and the] Application Logic includes the control structure that specifies the flow for processing for business events and user requests." col. 125, lines 39-43; *see also* "...business rules..." col. 316, lines 24-26) for configuring said at least one widget in the user interface based upon a context provided by said at least one widget ("AddToUIContext [:] Add a User Interface component to the UI context of the activity." col. 32, lines 27-28); and, a rules engine configured to process said business rules ("The control logic 14602" col. 316, lines 24-31).

As to dependent claim 2, *Underwood* further teaches at least one widget comprises a widget configured to be disposed in a markup language document ("A preferred embodiment of the invention utilizes HyperText Markup Language (HTML) to implement documents on the Internet together with a general-purpose secure communication protocol for a transport medium between the client and a company. " col. 15, line 61 to col. 16, line 8; *see also* e.g. "...form element widgets to build the necessary HTML code..." col. 64, lines 30-37).

As to dependent claim 3, *Underwood* further teaches that that business rules specify at least one suggested option to be presented to an end user through said at least one widget (e.g. "...get the Customer Object from the Activity Context and add the default values..." col. 282, lines 35-36).

As to dependent claim 4, *Underwood* teaches business rules specifying at least one option which is not to be presented to an end user through said at least one widget ("activity components to which the current page, previous page record, and information are provided may be selectively determined " col. 57, lines 10-13; *see also* e.g. "...embed hidden

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data within forms..." col. 302, lines 40-43; *see also* e.g. "ability to hide different implementations of a function behind the same name" col. 12, lines 42-44).

As to dependent **claim 5**, *Underwood* further teaches the business rules specifying rules for validating input provided through the presentation field ("...utilize externally stored parameters and validation rules. For example, an application may be designed to retrieve the tax rate for the State of Illinois. When the user enters "Illinois" on the screen, the application first validates the user's entry by checking for its existence on the "State Tax Table", and then retrieves the tax rate for Illinois. " col. 119, lines 3-12).

As to independent **claim 6**, *Underwood* teaches a method for autonomically configuring a user interface widget ("[d]eveloping [a] collection of [a]utonomous components, called objects..." col. 11, lines 44-55; *see also* "User Interface {UI} components. Custom 'widgets' {e.g., real-time stock tickers, animated icons, etc.}..." col. 16, lines 39-42), the method comprising the steps of: evaluating business rules for configuring the user interface widget (e.g. via "[t]he control logic 14602" col. 316, lines 24-31) according to context information for the user interface widget ("AddToUIContext [:] Add a User Interface component to the UI context of the activity." col. 32, lines 27-28)(emphasis added); and, configuring the user interface widget with options permitted by said evaluation ("...information [p]rovided may be selectively determined..." col. 57, lines 10-13).

As to dependent **claim 7**, *Underwood* further teaches the configuring step comprising the step of suggesting at least one option to be presented to an end user through said user interface widget (e.g. "...get the Customer Object from the Activity Context and add the default values..." col. 282, lines 35-36).

As to dependent claim 8, *Underwood* further teaches the configuring step comprising the step of filtering at least one option from being presented to an end user through said user interface widget ("activity components to which the current page, previous page record, and information are provided may be selectively determined " col. 57, lines 10-13; *see also* e.g. "...embed hidden data within forms..." col. 302, lines 40-43; *see also* e.g. "ability to hide different implementations of a function behind the same name " col. 12, lines 42-44).

As to dependent claim 9, *Underwood* further teaches the configuring step comprising the step of validating input provided through a presentation field in said user interface ("...utilize externally stored parameters and validation rules. For example, an application may be designed to retrieve the tax rate for the State of Illinois. When the user enters "Illinois" on the screen, the application first validates the user's entry by checking for its existence on the "State Tax Table", and then retrieves the tax rate for Illinois. " col. 119, lines 3-12).

As to independent claim 10, this claim differs from claim 6 only in that it is directed to a product defined by the process of claim 6. Furthermore, *Underwood* teaches that the autonomic configuring of the user interface widget can be accomplished by "A computer program embodied on a computer readable medium" (col. 326, lines 41-42). Therefore, claim 10 is rejected for the same reasons set forth in the treatment of claim 6, above.

As to dependent claims 11-13, these claims differ from claims 7-9, respectively, only in they are directed to products defined by the processes of claims 7-9, respectively. Since *Underwood* teaches the autonomic configuring of the user interface widgets by "A computer

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program embodied on a computer readable medium" (col. 326, lines 41-42) - these claims are rejected for the same reasons set forth in the treatment of claims 7-9, respectively.

CONCLUSION

8. Although not relied upon, the following prior art is made of record because it considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

- [1] *Nelson et al.* (US Pat. No. 5,999,948 A) for teaching FDL files registered with dynamic form software modules using a dynamic forms API.
- [2] *Narayan* (US 2002/0065946 A1) for teaching a client generating proxy objects based on an interface definitions downloaded over a network and policy access data that may reside on said client.
- [3] *Johnston-Watt et al.* (US 2004/0060038 A1) for teaching an autonomic implementation and verification of a business logic specification in a heterogeneous distributed computing environment.
- [4] *Underwood* (US Pat. No. 6,718,525) for teaching a sub-activity logic adapted to generate an output based on an input received from a user upon execution.

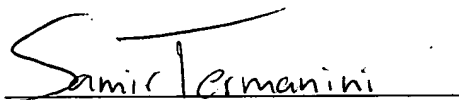
9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Samir Termanini whose telephone number is (571) 270-1047. The Examiner can normally be reached from 9 A.M. to 4 P.M., Monday through Friday (excluding alternating Fridays).

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Stephen S. Hong can be reached on (571) 272-4124. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

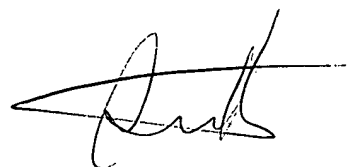
Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published

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Samir Termanini
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2178



STEPHEN HONG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER